THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Govt. of Kerala has, however, been asked to verify the factual position.

(b) The Supreme Court, in its judgement in L. K. Pandey vs. Union of India and others, has laid down an elaborate procedure for regulating and monitoring inter-country adoptions of children, in order to reduce, if not eliminate altogether the possibility of profiterring and trafficking in children. In pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court, a Central Adoption Resources Agency (CARA) has been set up for safeguarding the interests of children given in adoption including these sent abroad.

(c) There are no authentic reports in this regard.

Excess payment made by DMS

*358. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unauthorised and excess payments of over Rs. 1 crore were made in February, 1992 to Federation and Co-operative Societies by Delhi Milk Scheme;

(b) whether such payments were made after removing Government's decision and communications from the records and whether it is also a fact that Premium payment were made during 1991-92 to Nanak Singh's Group by removing Government decision from records;

(c) whether it is also a fact that excess milk was purchased from Nanak Singh's Group by getting the milk converted from Federation at a fabulous price of Rs. 1.5 per kg. and the fat was also sold at a loss; and

(d) what steps have been taken to fix responsibility for all these lapses which resulted in a loss of over Rs. 10 crores to Delhi Milk Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Because of non-fulfilment of the commitment by one of the contractors, additional quantities of milk at a premuim were procured. The additional quantities were procured from all the contractors and not from a specific group/contractors, as per the contract. No Government decision prohibiting procurement of additional quantities has been removed from records.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of (a), (b) and (c) above, does not arise.

Milk Production

359. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India now ranks second in the world in milk production;

(b) if so, what has been the total milk production of our country through our cattle durng the past three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large part of our liquid milk supply still depends on imported milk products donated by EC countries; and

(d) if so, what are the item-wise details thereof, i.e. how much milk is our own production and how much of it is made from imported commodities both in terms of quantity and value.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir. India ranks second in the world in milk production.